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1. Military Policy: Limitations on the Number of Civilian Employees and Servicemen in the Defence Ministry

28.07.10. The Cabinet of Ministers issued Decree № 1570-p establishing limitations on the number of civilian employees and servicemen in the Defence Ministry from 01.11.2010 till 01.01.2011 as 1100 personnel, including 224 servicemen.

***Comment:** Under the approved Decree, the Cabinet reduced the limit number of civilian employees and servicemen in the Defence Ministry proper by 10% (121 staff members, including 5 servicemen).*

In March 2009, the Cabinet issues Decree № 301-r establishing the limit number of civilian employees and servicemen in the Defence Ministry for 2009-2010 as 1221 staff members, including 229 servicemen.

See Annex to IAR DN 30/2010 for information on the limit number of civilian employees and servicemen in the Defence Ministry proper from 1992 till 2010.

2. Military Policy: Stabilization Fund Spending Practices

21.07.10. The Cabinet of Ministers issued Decree № 611 establishing spending practices for the Stabilization Fund in 2010 in support of the State Targeted Defence Programme of Disposal of Conventional Ammunition Unfit for Further Use and Storing.

***Comment:** Under the approved Decree, the Defence Ministry is the chief manager of the budgetary funds. The funds not exceeding 730 million UAH provided for by Ukraine's State Budget for 2010 are allocated to the Defence Ministry on the non-repayable basis.*

Besides, the Defence Ministry submits within the first five days of each month an account to the Ministry of Finance on the use of the Stabilization Fund. Information on any remainder returned to the State Budget is also submitted in due order.

3. Force Training: Working Trip of the Chief of the General Staff

27-29.07.10. A group of officials from the Defence Ministry and General Staff headed by the Chief of the General Staff, Lieutenant-General Grygorii Pedchenko, paid a three-days' working visit to the Odessa region.

***Comment:** Lieutenant-General Pedchenko was briefed by the Commander of the Southern Operational Command, Lieutenant-General Petro Lytvyn, on the situation in the Southern OC.*

In the course of the working visit, Lieutenant-General Pedchenko familiarized himself with the state of affairs, issues and challenges, as well as ways or tackling these challenges in the military command and control body as well as its subordinated military units.

In the course of his briefing to leaders of the Southern OC, Lieutenant-General Pedchenko noted that the Military Institute at the Odessa National Polytechnic University was to be reformed the following year into the Military Academy named after General of the Army Cherniakhovskiy. This educational establishment will train officers for airmobile troops and military intelligence units as well as physical training experts. The Military Academy is to gain the capacity of 700 cadets by 2014.

4. Peacekeeping: Flying Training of the 56th Separate Helicopter Detachment in Liberia

Under the flying training plan of the 56th Separate Helicopter Detachment, Mi-8MT та Mi-24 flight crews executed flying shifts in the day and at night with some special exercises according to the established schemes.

***Comment:** The aim of the flights was for the airmen to restore lost skills at piloting in the day and at night in simple weather conditions; extended period of training flight with an external load and an exercise for a rescue airborne team. Training flights also included flights on a Mi-8MT helicopter with an external load as well as night-time flights to a small helipad with elements of a search-and-rescue exercise.*

In total, as of 25.07.10, air crews of the 56th Separate Helicopter Detachment of the 13th rotation performed 311 flights totalling almost 290 hours in the sky. Over 1160 passengers and 39 tons of cargo had been transported by this date.

5. Peacekeeping: Preparation for the 14th Rotation in Kosovo

Preparation of the national peacekeeping contingent for the next – 14th – rotation in Kosovo is underway. The rotation is scheduled for 4-16 August 2010.

***Comment:** In the course of the rotation, personnel of the 95th Separate Airmobile Brigade from Zhytomyr will be relieved by airmobile personnel from the Mykolaiv region. Training of the Ukrainian peacekeepers took place at the Training Centre of the 79th Separate Airmobile Brigade of the Ukrainian Army Command. The training was carried out in four phases each of which ended with a certification.*

The Ukrainian peacekeeping contingent operating as part of the Multinational Battle Group "East" performs foot patrolling and mounted observation of the AOR in towns and outside population aggregates in Kosovo. Servicemen of the Ukrainian contingent patrolled border territory in Kosovo, sent out synchronized patrols along the administrative demarcation line with the Republic of Serbia, conducted joint patrolling with Kosovo police and took part in KFOR exercises.

Besides, a Relief in Place ceremony was held at the US Base Bondsteel in Kosovo on 29 July 2010. During the ceremony, tasks and responsibilities were handed over to servicemen of the new rotation of the US peacekeeping contingent.

6. Ukraine-NATO: NATO General Secretary's Visit to Ukraine

According to the Head of the Mission of Ukraine to NATO, Igor Dolgov, the NATO General Secretary, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, accepted the invitation to come to Ukraine on an official visit.

Comment: Ukraine and NATO are currently negotiating the date and programme of the GS's visit. The invitation was extended to the NATO GS along with handing in of the credentials. Another issue under discussion was the possibility of a meeting between the NATO GS and the Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Kostiantyn Gryshchenko, in New-York at the high level segment meeting in the framework of the UN General Assembly.

Besides, experts take the view that there is no reason to expect that NATO will revise the status of its relations with Ukraine. Ukraine has every reason to appear also in NATO's new Strategic Concept now that Ukraine has legally established its non-aligned status.

7. Inspection of the Russian Black Sea Fleet Formations

Russia and Ukraine intend to sign an intergovernmental agreement on cooperation on inspection of the Russian Black Sea Fleet formations stationed in Ukraine. The Russian Prime-Minister, Volodymyr Putin, signed an appropriate Decree.

Comment: Under the signed Decree, the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to conduct negotiations with the Ukrainian side and, having reached an accommodation, on behalf of the Russian Government sign an Agreement on cooperation on inspection of the Russian Black Sea Fleet units stationed in Ukraine under the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, the Vienna Document of 1999, negotiations on trust and confidence-building measures and the Treaty on Open Skies of 24.03.92.

8. International Cooperation: Visit of the Commander of the US Army Europe

26-27.07.10. A US military delegation headed by the Commander of the US Army Europe, General Carter Ham, visited Ukraine.

Comment: The aim of the visit was to discuss the state and prospects of the bilateral military cooperation between the two Armies and improvement of the training system in the Ukrainian Army as well as interoperability between the Ukrainian Army and armed forces of NATO member states.

In addition, the US military delegation visited the International Peacekeeping and Security Centre in the Lviv region where it familiarized itself with the Centre's infrastructure. The delegation also visited the Sagaidachnyi Army Academy in Lviv where it was briefed on the purpose, structure and organization of training at the Academy.

9. International Cooperation: Visit of the German Military Delegation

27.07.10. A delegation of the German Federal Defence Ministry headed by the Parliament State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Defence, Mr Christian Schmidt, visited Ukraine.

Comment: The German military delegation arrived in Ukraine to conduct bilateral military-political consultations. In the course of the negotiations, the parties exchanged experience in reformation of their respective armed forces, their strength, armament, and areas of training.

Based on the results of the negotiations, the parties signed an Agreement between the Ukrainian Defence Ministry and the Federal Defence Ministry of the FRG on cooperation on military geoinformation.

10. International Cooperation: Visit of a Czech Military Delegation

28.07.10. A Czech military delegation arrived in Ukraine to work in Vinnitsa on implementation of the Agreement between the Ukrainian and Czech Defence Ministries on strategic airlift.

Comment: In the course of the meeting the parties discussed practical implementation of the Agreement on strategic airlift. They also coordinated engineering, technical and logistic support during the preparation for and performance of airlift.

Besides, the parties discussed flight safety for aircraft and their crews as well as granting of diplomatic permits for flights in transit countries and destination countries. Other coordinated issues included insurance of aircraft and crews, financial and legal issues associated with airlift.

**Limit Number
of civilian employees and servicemen in the Defence Ministry
from 1992 till 2010**

Government's Decision	Year	Limit number of staff members in the Defence Ministry (persons)	Including servicemen
Cabinet's Decree №471 of 15.08.92	1992	2974	2034
Cabinet's Decree №549 of 09.06.97	1997	2450	1675
Cabinet's Decree №446 of 24.03.99	1999	2150	1400
Cabinet's Decree №389 of 26.03.04	2004	1235	618
	2005	1235	247
Cabinet's Decree №635 of 20.04.07	2007	1281	256
	2008	1281	241
Cabinet's Decree №301-r of 18.03.09	2009	1221	229
	2010	1221	229
Cabinet's Decree №1570-r of 28.07.10	01.11.10 - 01.01.11	1100	224